

Draft Monsanto Chemical Co. Superfund Site Public Notice May 2021

EPA, IDEQ, and P4 Production LLC Reach Agreement on CERCLA Supplemental Remedial Investigation and Focused Feasibility Study at the Monsanto Chemical Company (Soda Springs Plant) Superfund Site in Soda Springs, Idaho

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Idaho Department of Environmental Quality, and P4 Production LLC have reached agreement on an Administrative Settlement Agreement and Order on Consent for a supplemental remedial investigation and focused feasibility study at the Monsanto Chemical Company Superfund Site in Soda Springs, Idaho.

The 800-acre Site includes a 540-acre plant operating area and a 260-acre buffer area. Monsanto purchased the property in 1952 to use local phosphate-rich ore to manufacture elemental phosphorus. Site activities and waste disposal practices contaminated soil and groundwater with hazardous chemicals and radioactive constituents.

EPA determined in the agency's 2013 and 2018 Five-Year Reviews of the Site that the original remedy selected in the 1997 Record of Decision is no longer protective of human health and the environment. Concentration trends of contaminants of concern, particularly selenium in groundwater, indicate that the groundwater remediation goals will not be met in the foreseeable future. In addition, contaminated groundwater appears to be impacting surface water and sediment in nearby creeks.

P4 Production has conducted site investigations and pilot tests to begin delineating the nature and extent of contamination found on- and off-site, and to test water treatment methods for cleaning up the groundwater. The company's agreement with EPA and IDEQ will allow for complete delineation of releases of contamination, re-evaluation of risks to human health and the environment, and a process for piloting treatment alternatives and selecting a new remedy.

Information on the Monsanto Chemical Company Superfund Site is available at:

<https://cumulis.epa.gov/supercpad/cursites/csitinfo.cfm?id=1000213>

For questions regarding this project, please contact Conor Neal at Neal.Conor@epa.gov or 206-553-0603, or Stan Christensen at Stan.Christensen@deq.idaho.gov or 208-236-6160.